

CLAIMS

1. A cardiomyopathy therapeutic agent that contains hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) and gelatin hydrogel, and
5 gradually releases HGF.
2. A cardiomyopathy therapeutic agent according to claim 1 wherein the gelatin has the following physical properties:
 - (1) an acidic gelatin obtained from collagen by alkaline
10 hydrolysis treatment;
 - (2) molecular weight under non-reducing conditions of SDS-PAGE of about 100,000 to about 200,000 daltons; and,
 - (3) zeta potential in aqueous solution of about -15 to about -20 mV.
- 15 3. A cardiomyopathy therapeutic agent according to claim 1 or 2 wherein cardiomyopathy is dilation cardiomyopathy.
4. A cardiomyopathy therapeutic agent according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the cardiomyopathy is hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.
- 20 5. A cardiomyopathy therapeutic agent according to claim 3 or 4 wherein the cardiomyopathy is idiopathic cardiomyopathy, primary cardiomyopathy or secondary cardiomyopathy.